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Son Charged with Mother's Murder

A Los Angeles man was charged today with the torture and murder of his mother at a downtown apartment on Sunday, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Arraignment for Chen Chao Ming (dob 5/30/92) was continued to Feb. 25 at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Department 30. He is being held without bail.

Ming is charged in case BA433423 with one count of capital murder with the special circumstance that the murder involved torture. He also is charged with one count of animal cruelty.

The Family Violence Division is prosecuting the case.

Responding to a 911 call about 8 p.m. Sunday, LAPD officers found the body of Yi Tung Weng, 48, Ming's mother, inside his apartment in the 1300 block of Figueroa Avenue. Weng, who was visiting from Taiwan, died of asphyxiation, prosecutors said.

Ming also allegedly threw his cat out a window.

Prosecutors will decide later whether to seek the death penalty against Ming.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.